UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

CHARLOTTESVILLE DIVISION

DR. ROBERT W. MALONE,

Plaintiff,

CASE No. 3:22-cv-00063

v.

SHOW CAUSE ORDER

PETER R. BREGGIN, MD, et al.,

Defendants.

JUDGE NORMAN K. MOON

This matter is before the Court upon its own motion, and further to the Clerk of Court's Notice Letter dated January 30, 2023. Dkt. 3.

Therein, the Clerk of Court warned Plaintiff that pursuant to Rule 4(m) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, "[i]f a defendant is not served within 90 days after the complaint is filed, the court—on motion or on its own notice to the plaintiff—must dismiss the action without prejudice against that defendant or order that service must be made within a specified time."

Dkt. 3 (citing Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(m)). However, "if the plaintiff shows good cause for the failure, the court must extend the time for service for an appropriate period." *Id.* In the letter, the Clerk of Court further cautioned that, "[p]ursuant to that rule, you are hereby given notice that the Court's record reflects that your complaint was filed on October 30, 2022 and as of this date, service has not been executed on defendant(s) Peter R. Breggin, MD, Ginger Ross Breggin, America Out Loud, Dr. Jane Ruby, Red Voice Media." *Id.* Accordingly, the letter advised that Plaintiff has "15 days from this day, January 30, 2023, to notify the Clerk of this Court that service has been accomplished on said defendant(s). Otherwise, the named defendant(s) will be dismissed from the suit without prejudice by Order of this Court." *Id.*

The fifteen-day period the Clerk's Office letter provided for Plaintiff to provide proof of service on the Defendants has come and gone. Plaintiff's counsel has filed proposed summons that the Clerk of Court issued, but Plaintiff has not provided proof that Plaintiff has served any Defendant (much less all Defendants) with a copy of the summons and complaint. Dkts. 4, 5.

It appearing to the Court that Plaintiff has not served any defendant within the time period specified by Rule 4(m) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Court hereby finds it appropriate to **DIRECT** Plaintiff's counsel to **SHOW CAUSE**, within **seven (7) days**, as to why this case should not be dismissed for failure to timely serve defendants, and for failure to prosecute. Plaintiff's counsel is further **cautioned** that failure to timely respond to this Show Cause Order **will result in dismissal of this action for failure to prosecute**.

It is so **ORDERED**.

The Clerk of Court is directed to send a copy of this Order to the parties.

Entered this 15th day of February, 2023.

Monum Mon NORMAN K. MOON SENIOR UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE